



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/634,000	08/04/2003	William M. Bouverie	772-28 PCT CON II	5031

7590 05/17/2004
David M. Carter, Esq.
Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP
Suite 225
445 Broad Hollow Road
Melville, NY 11747

EXAMINER

CHAU, MINH H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2854

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/634,000

Applicant(s)

BOUVERIE ET AL.

Examiner

Minh H Chau

Art Unit

2854

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 1-5** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Baur et al. (US # 5,067,832).

With respect to **claim 1**, Baur et al. teach a modular printer comprising a media take-up assembly module (23), a print head assembly module (2), a step motor assembly (37), a modular building block or a support block assembly module and a base frame or a support body (8), the support body having a plurality of recesses, each of the recesses being configured to receive one of the assembly modules of the modular printer at a position to align the assembly module with the other assembly modules of the modular printer, each of the assembly modules being independently mountable to and detachable from the support body as an integral unit (see Figs. 1-5 and cols. 6-10). With respect to the recitation of "a motor assembly module", Baur et al. teach a step motor assembly (37) that is independently mounted at the underside of the base frame (8) (see Fig. 1). In view of this teaching, it is clear to one of ordinary skill in the art that Baur et al. teach a motor assembly module that is independently mountable and detachable to the support frame or body.

With respect to **claim 2**, see Fig. 1 of Baur et al. that show the support housing or body defines an internal support frame or wall (8) within the printer, the plurality of recesses being formed in the support frame (8), each of the assembly module is secured within one of the recesses and the assembly module projects outwardly from the support wall.

With respect to **claim 3**, see Fig. 1 of Baur et al. that show the motor assembly (37) and an electronic control device or an electrical circuitry (5) are being supported or secured to the underside or a first side of the support frame (8) and the media take up reel assembly and the print head assembly are being supported or secured to the upper side or a second opposite side of the support frame (8).

With respect to **claims 4 and 5**, see cols. 6-8 and Fig. 1 of Baur et al that teach the use of an electric motor (37) and an electronic control device or an electrical circuitry (5) includes at least one circuit board removably support on the underside or first side of the support frame (8) for selectively control operation of the printer.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claim 6** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baur et al. as applied to claims 1-5 above, and in view of Sugiura et al. (US # 4,776,714).

With respect to **claim 6**, Baur et al. teach all the limitation as explained above to claims 1-5, except for the support body is formed of cast aluminum.

Steppe et al. teach a printer (1) comprising a frame (2) and a casing (8) being made of aluminum (see col. 3, lines 2930 of Steppe et al.).

In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of Baur et al. to include a support housing made of aluminum as taught by Steppe et al. for the advantage of heat dissipating.

5. Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baur et al. as applied to claims 1-5 above, and in view of Sugiura et al. (US # 4,776,714).

With respect to **claim 7**, Baur et al. teach all the limitation as explained to claims 1-5 above, except for "a display assembly removably secured to the support body.

Sugiura et al. teach a printer including a display assembly on the top surface of the keyboard (26') assembly that is removably secured to the support body (23) (see Figs. 1-2 of Sugiura et al.).

In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of Baur et al. to include the display assembly that is removably secured to the support body as taught by Sugiura et al. for the advantage of allowing the printing information can be displayed or viewed by the user.

With respect to **claim 8**, Baur et al. teach all the limitation as explained above to claims 1-5, except for "the support block assembly module includes a platen assembly".

Sugiura et al. teach a printer comprising a support block assembly module (57') including a platen assembly (56) (see Fig. 4 of Sugiura et al.).

In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of Baur et al. to include the support block assembly module that including a platen assembly as taught by Sugiura et al. so that to allow the platen can be securely mounted on the support block and also be able to easily mounted on the support frame of the modular printer.

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Applicant's attention is invited to the patents to Schoon et al. (US # 5,344,248) and Endo (US # 6,030,133)

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh H Chau whose telephone number is (571) 272-2156. The examiner can normally be reached on M - TH 9:30AM - 8:00PM.

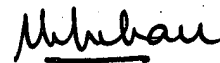
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

Art Unit: 2854

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MHC
May 12, 2004



Minh Chau
Patent Examiner